Implementation of Equal Remuneration Act

2038. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to implement the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976;

(b) the details of the inspections carried out and the action taken against the noncompliers in the last two years;

(c) whether Government is taking any step to ensure equal wages to women in the informal and unorganised sector of the economy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 provides for payment of equal remuneration to men and women workers for the same work or work of similar nature without any discrimination.

The Act is enforced by the Central and State Government by conducting regular inspections to detect the violation of provisions of the Act by establishments. The office of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) in the Central sphere and State Governments in State sphere are the appropriate authorities to conduct inspections to ensure implementation of the provisions of the Act.

(b) The details of the inspections carried out, number of violations of the Act and the action taken against the non-compliers as reported by Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) in the central sphere during last two years are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) To ensure equal wages to men and women in the informal and unorganised sector the Government has enacted The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 which does not provide any discrimination between male and female workers with regard to the minimum wages paid to them. All the provisions of the act equally apply to both male and female workers.

The enforcement of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is secured at two levels while in the Central sphere the enforcement is secured through inspecting officers of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) commonly designated as Central Industrial Relations

Machinery, the compliance in the State Sphere is ensured through the State Enforcement Machinery. The designated inspecting officers conduct regular inspections and in the event of detection of any case of non-payment or under-payment of minimum wages, they direct the employers to make payment of the shortfall of wages. In case of non-compliance, penal provisions prescribed under Section 22 of the Act are taken recourse to.

Statement

Details of inspection carried out in last two years

Sl. No.	Particulars	2018-19	2019-20 (upto December ,2019)
1.	No. of inspections conducted	3462	3396
2.	No. of irregularities detected	2933	2554
3.	No. of irregularities rectified	1344	824
4.	No. of Prosecution Launched	209	103
5.	No. of Convictions	129	67

Share of gas in the energy basket

2039. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has proposed to increase the share of gas in the energy basket in the country in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total investment required;

(c) the target of supply of CNG to automobiles and piped cooking gas to household for the next three years; and

(d) the efforts being made to augment gas production in the country to reduce import of gas, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Natural Gas being an alternative cleaner fossil fuel has a major role in catering the growing energy demand in a sustainable manner. To increase the